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FIERCEST FIGHTING GOING ON IN SILESIA ON BANKS OF ODER

Despite Stubborn German Resistance, Soviets Expand Bridgehead at Brieg

Domei

BERLIN, February 6.—Fiercest fighting continued in the lower half of eastern Germany in Silesia between Ratibor and Glogau where most of the fighting is taking place for the forming or smashing of bridgeheads on the banks of the Oder. Soviet offensive actions along the Oder due east of Berlin has lost most of its former vigor, but major action by Marshal Zhukov is expected there especially in the large Oder-Warthe bend after he has finished carrying out his large regroupings.

Bitter exchange of blows and counterblows took place all along the Oder between Ratibor and Glogau and numerous Soviet bridgeheads on the west bank of the river were greatly formed by the Soviets. Bitter fighting was waged on both sides of Brieg and despite stubborn German resistance the Soviets expanded their southwestern bridgehead.

Northwest of Breslau, grim fighting continues especially in the Steinau area and at the moment Soviet pressure is concentrated on the town of Steinau whose comparatively weak garrison is resisting fanatically.

A renewal of the Soviet focal point in the large Oder-Warthe bend, however, is clearly noticeable and presumably this sector remains as the focal point of the Soviet offensive. Embittered fighting took place for the Oder bridgehead near Frankfurt and Soviet offensive action continued against Kuestrin and Soldin.

One report said that the Soviets have established two bridgeheads across the Oder yesterday—one at Furstenburg and the other five kilometers south of Frankfurt. Furstenburg is situated 22 kilometers southeast of Frankfurt and stands on the main Breslau-Berlin railway.

Meanwhile, attacks by the Soviet units against the Pommeranian front again met with a reinforced German defense. The Soviets could nowhere advance beyond the Pyritz-Arnswalde-Deputch Krone-Jastrow line, but it is believed that another Soviet offensive is imminent also in this sector.

Major action was waged for Elbing in the penetration corridor, but after bitter attacks and counterattacks the Germans were able to iron out all penetrations. There was no change in the situation in the area of Koenigsberg.

Germans Resisting Fiercely

Domei

BERLIN, February 6.—Although the German-Hungarian garrison of Budapest has been cut off now for more than six weeks and although the defense on a narrow area has become very difficult, the garrison is still offering stubborn resistance making successful counterattacks.

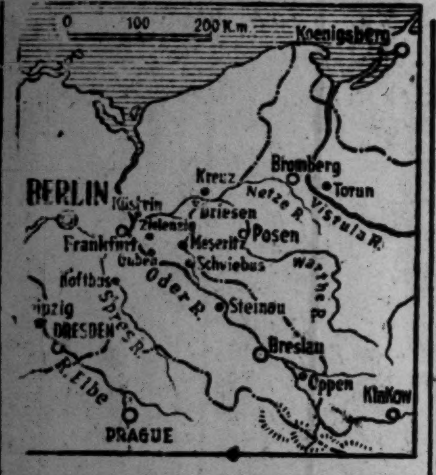
On Sunday also several Bolshevist storm columns which tried to break into the German defense system from the north and southwest were repelled with heavy losses. For each building courtyard, etc. individual engagements are taking place. In the northern part of the city the fighting is going on for the Fischer Bastion which has been turned into a heap of ruins on account of the Soviet artillery fire.

Between Lake Balaton and the Vienroe Lake the German troops have taken up well constructed positions and repelled heavy enemy tank attacks, at the same time mopping up several enemy dents. After the heavy counterblows of German tank formations north and east of Stuhlweissenburg the Soviets have not gone in for any major operations with the exception of shock troop attacks. The bitterness of the struggle in this area may be gathered from the final reports according to which 1,469 Soviet tanks and storm-guns have been destroyed or captured during the last four weeks.

Wai on Stilwell Road

Domei

LISBON, February 5.—Wei Tao-ming, Chungking Ambassador to the United States, told newspapermen that the Chungking regime was optimistic regarding the transportation of war materials by way of the newly-constructed Stilwell Road, but Chungking could not be sufficiently supplied to sustain the Japanese offensive till harbor facilities would be constructed along the Chinese coast, according to a Washington dispatch.



'BIG THREE' CONFEREES SAID MEETING IN RUSSIA

Paris Claims Talks Going on At Sochi Near Stalin's Former Home Town

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, February 6.—The French Telegraph Agency said that the "Big Three" Conference is being held at Sochi, a Russian Black Sea port, 20 miles above the Province of Georgia, home town of Premier Josef Stalin, a Paris dispatch disclosed today.

White House Silent

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, February 6.—The White House has refused to comment on the statement made in London that President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Premier Josef Stalin are already in conference, according to a Washington report.

The statement had been made by Sir Walter Citrine, Secretary of the British Trade Union Congress, before a meeting of the World Trade Union Congress, which is now in session in London. Sir Walter stated that the conference of the "Big Three" Powers made it impossible for Churchill to attend the opening session of the World Trade Union Congress.

In order to confirm his statement, Citrine read a message of greeting from Churchill on behalf of the British Government. If Citrine's announcement is true, it is the first definite statement that Churchill is attending the conference for the German press has been talking about the "Big Three" meeting for the past few days. German commentators have made several guesses about where the conference is taking place. Some say that it is being held in a Rumanian Black Sea port and there have also been neutral reports that the three leaders are meeting in Bucharest or somewhere on the Russian territory. So far, anti-Axis sources, however, have maintained silence.

TRADE UNION BODY MEETS

Delegates From Over 40 Countries Hold Congress in London

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, February 6.—Over 60,000,000 people will be represented at the World Trade Union Congress which opens in London today, participated in by delegates from trade union organizations in more than 40 countries, according to a London report.

London newspapers are prominently playing up the meeting. Typical is the comment appearing in the Daily Herald, which said: "It is fitting that London is to be the meeting place. Britain has achieved prodigies in the war production. Without the experience which the trade unions were able to give to the common cause, victory would have been denied to us."

The Times declared: "The common struggle is against the Nazis and Fascist domination which gives a new sense of unity of purpose to trade unionists. And this unity, if it can be kept up should enable the organized working of the United Nations to take an equally effective path in the formidable task of reconstruction after the defeat of Germany."

Reich Garrison Donates

Domei

BERLIN, February 6.—On the occasion, on January 30, of the 12th anniversary of the assumption of the leadership of the German Reich by Fuehrer Hitler, an amount of 325,000 marks was collected by the German garrison stationed at Leros, in the Aegean Sea, for those of their countrymen who had evacuated the eastern part of Germany: The Fuehrer replied to the message, which was conveyed by Colonel Koschella, Commander of the Fortress, by a telegram expressing his deep thanks.

BIG ENEMY OFFENSIVE ALL ALONG ROER LOOMS

Activities of Anglo-American Troops Indicate Imminence Of Gigantic Drive

Domei

BERLIN, February 6.—British and American troops continued reconnaissance activity along the entire Roer and it is generally believed that it is only a matter of time before a gigantic offensive is launched in that sector.

At present, however, the most active front sectors are between the Meuse and Eifel and along the entire course of the Roer River. Heaviest fighting continued in the wooded region of Snow Eifel south of the old battle area of Aachen. These operations, however, are considered by the German military spokesman as not the beginning of the expected large-scale offensive in the west, but merely operations for creating a favorable platform for the enterprise.

Yesterday, Eisenhower threw in this sector further fresh reserves of the American 1st and 3rd Armies and made still more breaches into the deeply echeloned pillbox positions of the German western fortifications. German counterattacks are now in progress and particularly heavy losses were inflicted on the Americans in the region of Urft Valley dam. Enemy pressure is gaining in front of this dam, however, and equally fierce fighting is being waged for the West Wall fortifications in Snow Eifel.

There was no fighting of importance in the Saar and lower Alsace, but in upper Alsace, enemy forces continued to attack against the slowly shrinking German bridgehead there. German quarters stated that German action in this sector is definitely committed to dilatory resistance. This was especially true in the area of Neubreisach and northwest of Mulhouse.

Regarding the imminent large-scale offensive in the west, the return of the American 1st Army under the command of Lieutenant General Omar Bradley is regarded as another sure sign that the campaign in the west has entered a new phase.

Moreover, observations have been made along the entire course of the Roer which definitely indicate a forthcoming major attack. Fierce and continuous artillery fire, troop concentrations and increasing reconnaissance activity as well as an increasing employment of smoke screens which usually precede assaults by the enemy forces all indicate that the attack may be expected at any moment.

CANADA TO HOLD ELECTION

Necessitated by Defense Minister's Defeat Over Conscription Issue

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, February 6.—The possibility of an early general election was predicted in Canada after the defeat of Lieutenant General Andrew MacNaughton, Defense Minister in the by-elections on the issue of overseas conscription, according to a Toronto dispatch.

As Prime Minister William L. Mackenzie King put it, the election result raises the immediate question whether any useful purpose can be had by having another parliamentary session before the general election, continues the report. The by-election, fought on the issue of conscription for overseas service which the Conservative Party favors, was won by Garfield Case, a Progressive Conservative.

It was further pointed out that if an early general election follows MacNaughton's defeat in the gray north by elections the results may not be typical of the country as a whole. It is reported the Progressive Conservatives are relatively weaker elsewhere, while the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation and the Farmer Labor Socialist Party are stronger in comparison. Of all the parties which go into the general election the CCF is expected to get a large number of seats but with a fairly small hope of getting an over-all majority. Only the Liberals, the Government party, according to the same dispatch, carry any hope of winning a fair majority and might do it if they hold the French speaking support.

Ecuador at War With Japan

Domei

LISBON, February 5.—Joseph Grew, U.S. Undersecretary of State, announced in a press conference today that he has received a communication from Ecuador stating that Ecuador, since December 7, 1941, has been and is in a state of war with Japan, according to a Washington dispatch.

IMPERIAL RESCRIPT OBSERVANCE DAY

Imperial Rescript

We, by grace of heaven, Emperor of Japan, seated on the Throne of a line unbroken for ages eternal, enjoin upon ye, Our loyal and brave subjects:

We hereby declare war on the United States of America and the British Empire. The men and officers of Our Army and Navy shall do their utmost in prosecuting the war, Our public servants of various departments shall perform faithfully and diligently their appointed tasks, and all other subjects of Ours shall pursue their respective duties; the entire nation with a united will shall mobilize their total strength so that nothing will miscarry in the attainment of Our war aims.

To insure the stability of East Asia and to contribute to world peace is the far-sighted policy which was formulated by Our Great Illustrious Imperial Grandsire and Our Great Imperial Sire succeeding Him, and which We lay constantly to heart. To cultivate friendship among nations and to enjoy prosperity in common with all nations has always been the guiding principle of Our Empire's foreign policy. It has been truly unavoidable and far from Our wishes that Our Empire has now been brought to cross swords with America and Britain. More than four years have passed since China, failing to comprehend the true intentions of Our Empire, and recklessly courting trouble, disturbed the peace of East Asia and compelled Our Empire to take up arms. Although there has been re-established the National Government of China, with which Japan has effected neighborly intercourse and cooperation, the regime which has survived at Chungking, relying upon American and British protection, still continues its fratricidal opposition. Eager for the realization of their inordinate ambition to dominate the Orient, both America and Britain, giving support to the Chungking regime, have aggravated the disturbances in East Asia. Moreover, these two Powers, inducing other countries to follow suit, increased military preparations on all sides of Our Empire to challenge us. They have obstructed by every means our peaceful commerce, and finally resorted to a direct severance of economic relations, menacing gravely the existence of Our Empire. Patiently have We waited and long have We endured, in the hope that Our Government might retrieve the situation in peace. But our adversaries, showing not the least spirit of conciliation, have unduly delayed a settlement; and in the meantime, they have intensified the economic and political pressure to compel thereby Our Empire to submission. This trend of affairs would, if left unchecked, not only nullify Our Empire's efforts of many years for the sake of the stabilization of East Asia, but also endanger the very existence of Our nation. The situation being such as it is, Our Empire for its existence and self-defense has no other recourse but to appeal to arms and to crush every obstacle in its path.

The hallowed spirits of Our Imperial Ancestors guarding Us from above, We rely upon the loyalty and courage of Our subjects in Our confident expectation that the task bequeathed by Our forefathers will be carried forward, and that the sources of evil will be speedily eradicated and an enduring peace immutably established in East Asia, preserving thereby the glory of Our Empire.

(Imperial Sign Manual)
(Imperial Seal)

The 8th day of the 12th month
of the 16th year of Showa.

Exploits of 10 Army Airmen In Downing B-29's Disclosed

Rammed Enemy Raiders During Attacks Over Nagoya and Tokyo Districts in December Last Year

Exploits of 10 Army airmen who were killed in action in ramming attacks against the Mariana-based B-29 bombers in the skies over the neighborhood of Nagoya and Tokyo on December 13, 18, 22 and 27 last year and who won citations granted by His Imperial Highness General Prince Naruhiko Higashikuni, Commander of the Defense Headquarters, have been brought to the August knowledge of His Majesty the Emperor were announced by the War Ministry on Wednesday.

The announcement follows:

"Those who rammed and downed B-29 bombers of the U.S. air force coming from the Mariana base that attacked Nagoya and its vicinity on December 13, 18 and 22, 1944 as well as the Tokyo Metropolis and its neighboring districts on December 27 and met glorious deaths and who were previously granted citations by Prince Naruhiko Higashikuni, Commander of the Defense Headquarters, and whose achievements have now been brought to the August knowledge of His Majesty the Emperor follows:

"Sublieutenant Tadao Nakamura, counterattacking a formation of seven enemy planes over the neighborhood of Okazaki on December 13, 1944, damaged one raider and downed another by ramming attack and was killed in action.

"Sublieutenant Shigeo Suzuki and Sergeant Major Yasushi Nakamura were killed in action on December 18, 1944 when they rammed and downed one plane out of 10 enemy raiders advancing southeastward in the skies over Atsumi Bay.

"Special Sergeant Major Takeo Kogo and Corporal Eitaro Sekikawa, contacting a southward advancing formation of six enemy planes over Chita Peninsula on December 18, 1944, rammed the second enemy plane of the formation and died in action.

"Major Yoshio Hirose, as the commander of a fighter plane unit, counterattacked the enemy planes before they penetrated Nagoya on December 22, 1944. His unit shot down three raiders and damaged six others. After damaging one commanding plane of the enemy by himself, he also downed another by ramming action and died in action. The Major rendered great military services in many battles since the outbreak of the China Affair and was regarded as the 'treasurer' of the Japanese Fighter Plane Unit.

"Captain Osamu Kawakami, as the commander of a fighter plane unit, which counterattacked enemy planes raiding Nagoya on December 22, 1944 dashed against the enemy raiders at the head of his unit and although his right arm was pierced by an enemy bullet, he carried out a ramming attack and downed his objective. He was killed in the battle.

"Sergeant Major Takeo Yoshida, who shot down one plane in counterattacking some enemy aircraft over Toyohashi before the raiders penetrated Nagoya on December 22, 1944 also rammed and downed one out of nine enemy planes into Tokyo Bay in a fight over the Metropolis on December 27. He died in action.

"Sergeant Shigeo Takahashi was killed in action on December 22, 1944 when after shooting down one out of an enemy formation of six planes in the skies east of Nagoya, he carried out ramming attacks and downed one enemy plane of another formation of six aircraft in the skies south of Nagoya. He was killed in action.

"Sublieutenant Yasuo Watanabe, who was attached as a member of the Shinten Anti-Air Raid Unit of the Special Attack Corps, rammed and downed one plane in catching up with an enemy formation of seven aircraft which came attacking Tokyo Metropolis and its vicinity on December 27, 1944 and was killed in action."

EAM Resumes Talks

Special to the Nippon Times

ZURICH, February 6.—The peace talks between the Greek Government and the EAM were resumed in Athens today and Foreign Minister John Sophianopoulos declared that the conference would be completed within the next few days since the EAM has accepted the Government's condition about crimes committed during the civil war, an Athens dispatch disclosed today.

HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY FETES MANCHOU RULER

Chen, Hitler and Mussolini Also Congratulate Sovereign On Birthday

His Majesty the Emperor was pleased to dispatch on February 6 a telegram of congratulation feting the birthday of His Majesty the Emperor of Manchoukuo.

Receives Birthday Greetings

Domei

HSINKING, February 6.—On the auspicious occasion of Manjusetsu today, or the birthday of His Majesty the Emperor of Manchoukuo, messages of felicitation were received from His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, Chen Kung-po, Acting President of the National Government of China, Fuehrer Hitler of Germany and Benito Mussolini, Prime Minister of the Italian Social Republic.

His Majesty the Emperor of Manchoukuo was pleased to dispatch telegrams of acknowledgment immediately.

Local Ceremonies Held

Manjusetsu ceremonies were held at the Manchoukuo Embassy in Tokyo at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday participated in by about 300 Manchoukuo military officers and students. Prayers were offered for the health of His Majesty the Emperor of Manchoukuo and for victory in the War of Greater East Asia. The rites closed with three banzai for the Manchoukuo Emperor.

On the same day, some 60 Manchoukuo students studying in Japan held a musical program celebrating the occasion at the Manchoukuo Students' Guidance Association auditorium at Koishikawa. The program ended at 4 p.m.

KOBE RAID EFFECT SMALL

Enemy Admits After Reconnaissance Fires Quickly Put Out

Domei

LISBON, February 6.—The Headquarters of the U.S. 21st Bomber Command reported today that reconnaissance photos showed that the raid on Kobe on February 4 was only "moderately successful," and Frank Tremaine, United Press correspondent, stressed that today's pictures taken 24 hours after the raid showed no fires burning in Kobe.

The UP correspondent stated that despite a high wind blowing during the attack and the fact that the pictures taken immediately after the attack showed fires raging in various parts of the city, pictures taken 24 hours after the raid showed no fires burning. He believed that the Japanese home defense forces apparently had successfully fought the fires and proved that such fire-extinguishing forces were surprisingly effective.

2 B-29's Over Kanto

One B-29 bomber forced its way through Boso Peninsula at 8:15 a.m. on Wednesday and after flying over the eastern part of the Kanto district fled by way of Kasumigaura at 9 a.m. the same day. Another enemy plane advanced northward over the Izu group at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday but it fled southward after flying over Sagami Bay.

One B-29 Raids Kobe

One Mariana-based B-29 bomber raided Kobe and dropped bombs shortly after 8 p.m. on February 6 and again at 2:30 a.m. and 2:40 a.m. the next day. No damage was reported.

B-29 Reconnaissance Flight

One B-29 appeared over the Kobe and Osaka areas from the direction of Murotomisaki at about 9 a.m. of February 6 and took flight from the Kii Peninsula area. Another B-29 penetrated into the southern part of Aichi Prefecture from the direction of Ashizurimisaki at 10:40 a.m. and after passing over the western section of Kochi City fled southward. Both planes came for reconnaissance purposes and no bombs were dropped.

Calif. Governor Raps Mexico

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, February 6.—Governor Earl Warren of California appearing before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee today called for recognition of the sanctity of the Colorado River compact with the Federal Government and the States interested in the river, according to a Washington report. The Governor said that there will be insufficient water in Colorado to serve the United States' needs and still give Mexico an ample supply. Criticizing Mexico, he declared: "Mexico has no equity in water prepared by Boulder Dam within our borders and she has contributed little to the conservation of those waters."

Nippon Units Inflict Heavy Blow on Enemy Landed on Bolo Isle

By YOSHIMURA
Of the Military Press Corps

PHILIPPINE FRONT, February 6.—Japanese Forces on the spot have been striking furiously day and night at approximately 3,000 enemy forces which landed on Bolo Island of the Camotes group, lying midway between Leyte and Cebu, on January 18. Though small in number the Japanese Forces have withstood the enemy for over 20 days and their fighting spirit still runs at high pitch. The war results ascertained up to now are as follows: Blasted and set afire—two mountain guns, five tanks, 30 bivouacs, one truck, two landing barges; stranded—one landing barge; seized—four heavy machine guns, 10 light machine guns, four automatic rifles, bullets 99,000; the number of killed or wounded—more than 500.

FURIOUS BATTLES RAGE ON LUZON PLAIN AREAS

Counterthrusts by Japanese Checking Enemy's Southward Advance

By M. MATSUZAKI
Of the Military Press Corps

ADVANCE BASE ON LUZON ISLAND, February 5.—With the increase of tempo of the Luzon operations, furious battles are raging day after day particularly on the Luzon plain. Japanese Units, though cut-numbered, are carrying out frontal and flank attacks against the powerful enemy forces.

In the Clark Field area, furious hand-to-hand struggles are being staged, and the Japanese are constantly launching counterthrusts against the enemy's flank in order to check his southward advance.

In the north of Manila, the Japanese closed in on two enemy battalions equipped with five fieldguns, four trench-mortars and numerous automobiles on the night of February 2, and blasted over 20 automobiles and killed or wounded more than 100 enemy troops. At present, furious fighting is still raging in the same area.

At the same time, some other Japanese Units in the vicinity directed furious attacks against an enemy division which had advanced under cover of machinegun fire and bombings on February 3, and inflicted heavy losses on the invaders.

Encountering powerful enemy forces comprising two fieldgun companies, two companies armed with 15-centimeter caliber guns, one company equipped with 10-centimeter caliber guns, one trench-mortar company, one infantry battalion and 20 tanks, in the northeast of San Jose, crack units of the Japanese Forces carried out bayonet-attacks and completely wiped out the enemy after dark on February 3.

In Umingan and its vicinity, during the three days from February 1, the Japanese killed or wounded some 900 enemy troops and destroyed numerous arms including eight tanks, 26 automobiles, eight automatic machineguns, eight trench-mortars, 11 tractors and five rapid-firing guns while capturing seven heavy machineguns, 22 automatic rifles and others.

Japanese Units operating in southern Manila, attacked the enemy who had attempted to force an eastward advance from Nasugbu and successfully checked the enemy advance at a point, 15 kilometers east of Nasugbu. On the morning of February 3, the Japanese, contacting the enemy air commando, one battalion strong reinforced with paratroops in the vicinity of Tagaytay, and inflicted heavy blows on the enemy force. At present, devastating battles are still in progress in the same area.

Up to the present, the enemy has thrown more than 10 divisions in the Luzon operations under cover of over 1,000 land-based aircraft and is bombastically claiming that he has hampered the concentration of forces by the Japanese. However, confronted with powerful Japanese Units entrenched in main positions, the enemy is being placed in a precarious position of being encircled by the Japanese. Thus in order to carry out his military strategy by means of recapturing Manila, the enemy has been speeding the deployment of powerful forces to the Manila area.

The war situation in the Philippines has assumed a complicated aspect with the intensification of the offensive and counteroffensive.

Enemy Announces Entry

Domei

LISBON, February 5.—It was officially announced by MacArthur's headquarters on February 5 that a part of the American forces penetrated into Manila. The U.S. First Calvary Division, advancing southward from Lingayen area, is said to be the first American forces penetrating into the Philippine capital.

Enemy's Losses

Domei

LISBON, February 5.—The American personnel losses in the three weeks since the American landings on Luzon were announced to be a total of 5,589, according to war reports released by MacArthur's headquarters on February 4.

PART OF U.S. FORCES DRIVING SOUTHWARD PENETRATES MANILA

Main Enemy Strength Adjusting Line to Strike at Capital From North

Moving southward from Cabanatuan, a part of the U.S. 1st Cavalry Division penetrated a corner of the city of Manila at dusk of February 3 while the main body of this enemy force is now adjusting its line in the area north of Manila and is preparing to strike at the capital.

However, the Japanese Forces that are strongly holding various vital positions in and outside of Manila are furiously counterattacking the invasion troops within the city and they have already inflicted tremendous losses upon the enemy.

In the meantime, the American forces that landed on Nasugbu, south of Manila Bay, are now attempting to advance toward Manila but their forward drive is heavily stemmed by the Japanese. A part of this landing force with three or four tanks however approached a point south of Manila on the evening of February 4 but the action of the main force is being checked.

Against the enemy air-borne units which descended by parachutes at Aga and Tagaytay, the Imperial Forces maintaining their positions are directing severe counterattacks thereby greatly hindering the enemy activity.

After advancing southward in the area north of the Luzon Plain, the United States troops are trying to cross the Bamban River but the Japanese have succeeded in checking their further attack. Meanwhile having been confronted with the furious Japanese counteroperations, the activities of the American forces that landed in the Subic Bay area are now being checkmated along the narrow firing line leading to San Fernando.

On the front near the Clark sector, the enemy forces have sustained considerable losses in the face of fierce Japanese shock attacks although they were able to approach the area fronting the Japanese position in the eastern part of the Pangasinan Plain. It was noted that the enemy's action in this theater of war has been decreasing in recent days.

P.I. INVADERS PAY DEARLY

Navy Landing Parties Take Heavy Toll in Manila Area Fighting

By S. SATO
Of the Military Press Corps

CERTAIN BASE IN THE PHILIPPINE AREA, February 6.—Fearlessly dashing into the enemy forces which have invaded the northern outskirts of Manila in spite of tremendous sacrifices, the Landing Parties of the Imperial Japanese Navy are now engaged in devastating hand-to-hand battles with the numerically far superior enemy forces.

On the night of February 3, the vanguards of the enemy forces stormed into the northern sector of Manila, thus converting Manila and its vicinity into a battlefield. Prior to this enemy advance, the Japanese Navy Landing Forces, anticipating the enemy move, closed in upon the invaders on the night of February 2. In the course of the ensuing furious hand-to-hand battles, the Japanese crippled or set ablaze 20 enemy tanks, damaged or seized 24 trucks and blasted more than 32 anti-tank guns and other arms. The enemy forces also sustained the loss of more than 1,600 men.

Again, on the night of February 3, the Japanese carried out bayonet-charges against the enemy, blasting 10 tanks and armored cars. Despite some losses, the Landing Forces in close concert with Army Units are carrying on their attacks against the enemy.

U.S. SENATOR DEFENDS RECENT REGIONAL PACTS

Deprecates View that Bilateral Agreements Indicate Disunity in Anti-Axis War Aims

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, February 5.—Senator Warren R. Austin of Vermont, the ranking Republican member of the influential Senate Foreign Relations Committee, in an appeal for unity of views on the United Nations' war objectives, deprecated the fact that in many circles the recent pacts made among the central European members of the United Nations are interpreted as being in opposition to the spirit, or substance, of the Dumbarton Oaks proposals, according to a Washington report. Austin spoke in part:

"The United Nations are fighting for a common cause. Insurgent nationalists have tried to have doubts about this. With the news of recent military reverse, the delay in establishing the Dumbarton Oaks proposals, and the prevalent misunderstanding of the purpose of bilateral agreements for security—the question lost sight of its objectives of merely causing the enemy to lay down his arms and returning to our isolationism which in the earlier days of this war threatened utter disaster.

"At the present time also, all those who ought to be promoting the organization of the United Nations are impeding the cause by holding out for—or by advocating—an intermediate council or by deprecating and misinterpreting the developments actually being made toward a general security organization.

Urges Concerted Efforts

"Now is the time for us to correct these errors and to achieve our true aims. Concentrated effort is imperative now. We may enlighten public opinion and dispel the doubts and inspire the hopes and faith vital to achievement.

"Let us correctly interpret the various bilateral agreements: the Anglo-Soviet Mutual Assistance Agreement of May 26, 1942, the Soviet-Czechoslovak Treaty of December 12, 1943, the Franco-Soviet Treaty of Alliance and Mutual Assistance of December 10, 1944, and other similar bilateral agreements which might be made.

"These agreements are for security. They are made against Germany and her Axis partners. They fit the pattern of the general international organization for security and peace.

"The Anglo-Soviet pact was based on the Atlantic Charter, and the same words appear in the preamble of the Dumbarton Oaks proposals as appear in that pact, which I quote 'The High Contracting Parties declare their desires to unite with other like ranking states in constructing proposals for action to preserve peace and resist aggression in the postwar period.' The Dumbarton Oaks proposals, subsequently adopted, indicated awareness of that pact and its intentions.

"The Soviet-Czechoslovak Treaty signed on December 12, 1943, expressly incorporates some of the principles of the Atlantic Charter. The protocol opens the door to some third country which borders on the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics or on the Czechoslovak Republic and which forms the object of German aggression in the present war.

"The treaty with Poland is based on the mutual defense of the parties concerned. It runs in line with the Dumbarton Oaks policy. It arises from proximity to Germany and responsibility for the Danube.

"The unforgettable atrocity of Munich emphasized the necessity of providing for special treatment for Germany in the general international organization. To forestall German aggression, come the measures for collective security.

Pact for Equilibrium

"Now, turning to the Franco-Soviet Alliance, it is a pact for equilibrium. It confirms that when once victory is achieved,—the reestablishment of peace on a firm basis and its maintenance during a long period in the future will be served by the existence of close collaboration among all the United Nations, and we have decided to collaborate in the creation of an international system of security for the effective maintenance of general peace and for the return of harmonious development of relations among nations. This and other definite references to the policy of Moscow, Teheran and Dumbarton Oaks, in complete accordance with the aims which the United Nations have adopted, show that the Franco-Soviet Alliance is an act of defense within the sphere and manner of the Dumbarton Oaks proposals.

"The special and distinctive obligations, created in this treaty for the policing of Germany, leave the United Nations free of the special difficulties inherent in disciplining an enemy.

"British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden, in the House of Commons, answering questions regarding the treaty, stated that it was in no way in conflict with the security organizations proposed at Dumbarton Oaks. He pointed out that, as recorded in the preamble, the joint maintenance of peace in the future will require the closest collaboration of the United Nations and their joint determination to work together in the revelation of a system of security.

"The American Secretary of State, Edward Stettinius, in a statement made public stated that he could find nothing which ran counter to the ideals of world organization. He also pointed to the foregoing preamble.

"This pact was definitely within the framework of the general international organization and gives room for conviction rather than doubt that the United Nations are fighting for a common cause.

"Now, before going into this treaty, which has never been used as a pretext or construction or opposition or a delay in the establishment of the general security organization, its true character as an instrument of security should be considered. The new method, of joint policing of the conquered enemy, is but an important accomplishment from the League of Nations Assembly. The suppression of an act of war wherever it may be necessary is an act of defense which is the responsibility of every member of the United Nations.

"To make this effective, power would be pooled. Sufficient force would be made feasible by the willing surrender, by members, of a degree of individual independence. The undertaking would be set forth in the charter and in a special agreement ensuring its proper enforcement. One of these grounds of confidence in the plan is that such combined action would operate free from the position of selfishness, exploitation or other imperialistic purposes. The world power combination would be assured by provision for rights and responsibility when such international police should arise."

Frontiers of Italy Unsettled by Truce, Bonomi Tells Press

Domei

STOCKHOLM, February 6.—In an interview with Italian newspaper correspondents on February 4, Premier Ivanoe Bonomi disclosed that the armistice terms had made no mention of the future frontiers of Italy, and that the Anglo-Americans had been given unrestricted authority over the domestic, financial, economic and military life of the Italian nation.

Fuehrer's Headquarters

February 6

In the southern Slovakian border district and north of the western Beskides some breaks which the enemy managed to achieve were sealed off. In the area around Budapest the garrison of the castle continues to offer heroic resistance to the Soviets attacking with superior forces.

On the Oder front, 71 enemy tanks were knocked out between Ratibor and Glogau, including 21 destroyed by the Brieg garrison, while southeast of Brieg the enemy succeeded in expanding his bridgehead. The sapper, Justus Juergensen, of the Sapper Training Battalion Crossen on the Oder blew up the Oder bridge at Fuerstenberg sacrificing his own life and he was posthumously awarded the Knight's Cross of the Iron Cross.

Enemy attacks against our defenses east of Frankfort-on-the-Oder and against Kuestrin were repulsed. Yesterday the Soviets succeeded in penetrating the center of the city of Posen and grim house to house fighting is progressing there.

In the southern part of Pommerania and West Prussia, the enemy attacked unsuccessfully and in the course of this fighting 52 tanks and 71 guns were destroyed. The Elbing garrison defended itself grimly against the onrushing Soviets.

Along the entire front in East Prussia bitter fighting continues and our counterattacking formations reduced the enemy breaches. In Courland the day passed without fighting actions of importance.

In the West, British and American formations along the entire Roer front continued their reconnaissance activities partly under strong cover of artificial fog. In the Schleiden area, our troops repulsed numerous enemy attacks while south of the Urt Valley dam the enemy succeeded in making local headway. From the Urt Valley sector east of St. Vith local fighting for pillboxes is reported. Near Bischweiler our artillery shelled the enemy concentrations.

Our formations in the Vosges Mountains northwest of the Ill fought their way back across the river and the enemy, trying to interfere with these detaching movements, was repulsed. Enemy attacks, undertaken on Ensisheim after severe artillery preparation, failed after suffering heavy losses.

In central Italy, our troops in the Sergio Valley near Callicano recaptured in a counterattack positions which had been temporarily lost, while the enemy reconnaissance thrust south of Bologna was unsuccessful.

In eastern Croatia, attacks by bands against the Syrmia front were repulsed with severe losses to the attackers. On the central course of the Drina, our formations captured the town of Zvornik in hard fighting.

American terror planes yesterday attacked Regensburg and other localities in southern Reich, while during the night British bombers advanced as far as the Reich capital.

NEW U.S. ENVOY TO ITALY PRESENTS CREDENTIALS

Kirk's Appointment Causes Diverse Feelings; New Ambassador Named

Alexander Kirk, who was recently appointed American Ambassador to Italy, presented his credentials to the Lieutenant of the Realm, former Crown Prince Umberto on January 11. The Italian royalists are delighted over the event, which signified in their opinion a change on the part of the United States, whose attitude vis-a-vis the royal family of Italy had hitherto been that of reserve. The republicans, however, are not at all pleased. The socialist newspaper Avanti and the periodical Itali Libera of the same party views have not so far mentioned the event, while the Communist paper Unita gave only two lines to the affair, according to Rome dispatches to the paper La Suisse.

The Bonomi Government appointed Alberto Siani Italian Ambassador to the United States on January 19. The new ambassador, a former journalist, is a political friend of Count Sforza. Sir Noel Charles, who was appointed British Ambassador to Italy in November last, has not yet presented his credentials to the Lieutenant of the Realm.

As is clear from the recent speech of Prime Minister Winston Churchill in the House of Commons, the British Government will treat Italy as a defeated country. In consequence of this attitude on the part of the British Government, anti-British sentiment is growing among the Italian people. In the Halifax memorandum revealed by the American journalist Drew Pearson, the British Government stated that the continuance of American supplies to Italy was undesirable. The matter will not be easily forgotten by the Italian people.

Various statements made by the British authorities in Parliament regarding Italy are arousing the ill-feeling of the Italians. Churchill's speech above referred to was a great disappointment to the Italians, for the speech indicating the unchangeable British policy regarding Italy rendered illusory the Italian hopes of acquiring the same status as France among the United Nations. After Churchill's speech, the leader of the Italian Socialist Party declared in the Avanti that in spite of the anti-Axis promise about the restoration of Italy, improvement of food supply and relief of unemployment in the country had scarcely been carried out, a fact which the socialist leader ascribed to the lack of sincerity on the part of the British Government. It is worth noticing that Italian resentment is being directed against Britain rather than against the United States.

MORGENTHAU HITS BANKERS

Says Changes Suggested in Monetary Plan Would 'Kill' Fund

Domei

LISBON, February 6.—Henry Morgenthau, U.S. Secretary of the Treasury, at a press conference today sharply criticized the report of the American Bankers Association which called for changes in the plan for the international monetary policy as outlined at Bretton Woods, according to a Washington dispatch.

Morgenthau declared that the Bankers' proposals, if followed, would "kill" the proposed fund and "I don't think their advice will be listened to."

"This is the first agreement of 44 nations on any economic issue," he said. "Of course you cannot get 44 people, let alone 44 nations, to have a perfect arrangement. Men engaged in international banking cannot successfully run foreign exchange. That is up to the Governments."

The Treasury Secretary stressed, "Bretton Woods has got to come and come soon."

TRUCKS RESUME CHIANG AID

First Convoy Carrying Supplies Reaches Kunming From India

Domei

LISBON, February 5.—With the opening of the Stilwell Road and the old Burma Route, the first convoy of transport trucks, loaded with military supplies, departed from India for Kunming. Passing through Myitkyina the trucks reached the outskirts of Kunming on February 3 and entered the city the next day. However, the trucks were constantly menaced with harassing attacks by the Japanese Air Forces and the passage was extremely difficult and dangerous, according to AP reports from Kunming on February 4.

"The first truck transport corps departed from Ledo, the railroad terminus in India and passing over the Stilwell Road reached Kunming. Enroute they were twice attacked by the Japanese Air Forces," says the AP dispatch.

German Attack Against American Cities With V-4, Super Flying Bomb, Predicted

Domei

LISBON, February 6.—That the Germans will use a V-4 weapon soon against New York was predicted by the Daily Herald on January 26 claiming that the "super flying bomb" is now in production and ready for launching across the Atlantic.

The article said that the V-4, new super flying bomb, which the Germans claim can hit New York, is now in production and ready for launching across the Atlantic, according to a German engineer who was one of the principle inventors of the V weapons. He was head of the experimental station for V bombs at Jutland, but a few days ago, he turned up in Sweden.

He said, "V-4 is faster, has greater range, and is more accurate than the V-2 or V-3. It is only an improvisation of the V-2, but it weighs about 15 tons, travels one-eighth of a mile a second and reaches a height of over 120 miles.

According to the same source, the V-4 is propelled on reaction, principally by the explosion of gases obtained from the load carried in the tanks built along the sides of the weapon in the same way as a petrol vapor is obtained from liquid petrol in the carburetor of motor cars.

The new principle in the V-4, however, is the use of electricity to ignite gases. The current is generated by a large number of condensers linked in series with common salt solution as the element. The greatest disadvantage about it is that it is difficult to produce in mass production.

The paper claimed therefore, that the Germans could send only a limited number against New York. It predicted, however, the Germans will probably reserve it for European targets until the end, and then they may use them to attack American cities.

EAST ASIA ESTABLISHING STRONG ECONOMIC SETUP

Southern Regions Making Rapid Strides in Industry And Agriculture

The establishment of a self-sufficient economic structure to take the place of Anglo-American capitalistic influence, which has been effectively driven out of East Asia, has been going steadily during the past three years along with defense measures against the enemy counteroffensive. The natural resources in the Southern Regions have been restored to their rightful owners and the whole economic structure which had been crippled by the exploitations of America and Britain is now gradually being put on a balanced economy.

Since the Manchurian Incident, self-sufficiency in foodstuffs has been attained by Japan, Manchoukuo and China. Immediately after the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, a movement for increased food production in the Southern Regions was started as one of the first activities of the Japanese Military Administration. To guide the peoples in those regions in cultivating rice, the scientific Japanese method was introduced, irrigation systems adopted and intensive cultivation encouraged.

Also many Japanese agricultural experts were sent to work among the inhabitants. All these efforts have resulted in greatly increasing the size of the crops. Malai, the Philippines and other countries which had suffered from an insufficient food supply, have made notable progress in reaching the present stage of self-sufficiency. Studies in the various types of tapioca, maize and copra have resulted in bigger crops.

Greater efforts have also been directed toward the industrization of the Southern Regions. After the food production increase had been taken care of, the Military Administration next undertook the repair and reconstruction of factories and plants and the erection of new ones. Cotton spinning and weaving, paper manufacturing, shipbuilding, the manufacture of machinery, caustic soda, the refining of iron and steel and many other industries are now in active operation, and the expansion of rubber, oil refining and soap-making plants is now being planned.

Along with these progressive measures, the training of the peoples of the region is being undertaken on a large scale. Formerly America and Britain had transported all the raw materials obtained in the south to their own countries, thus suppressing the development of local industry. In contrast to such a policy, Japan is following a policy of encouraging domestic industries, thus helping to advance local economic power.

While production is thus being increased, improvements in the transportation system are also under consideration. First consideration was given to railway transportation and many new lines have been laid down by Japanese experts and workers to connect important points. In regard to martime transportation, many wooden ships are being built at various places and the exchange of goods between Japan and the Southern Regions is going on smoothly despite the activities of enemy submarines.

A new banking system has been established in the Southern Regions since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, and by its successful operation during the past three years, a new currency structure has been perfected according to economy of the region concerned. In fact, the Southern Bank has given the peoples of the Southern Regions financial stability for which they had long hoped.

The Japanese Government has already not only given to the governments or central banks of various countries of Greater East Asia strong support to their currency but also made loans to the Reserve Bank and the Federated Bank of China, the Government of the Philippines, the Central Bank of Thailand and others. This aid has greatly contributed to maintaining the financial and economic order of those countries which are cooperating in the establishment of a new order in Greater East Asia.

The greatest result of this currency and banking reform, however, is in the active utilization of the latent resources of the regions through the supply of funds necessary for their development. Thus, the future prosperity of East Asia is assured through the stablized economic power of these countries.

America and Britain Blamed by Daily Mail For French Food Lack

Domei

LISBON, February 6.—Despair, disillusion and cynicism are common in France today and complaints are rife in the country that help for France is very inadequate, according to the Daily Mail. The people of France are complaining that if it is not possible to get more ships for food transport to France, England and the United States should be held responsible for all the suffering by the population. The Daily Telegraph also published a warning that if France's food situation becomes more serious than it is now, something must be done immediately, otherwise the future relations among the anti-Axis will be extremely precarious.

BELGIAN CRISIS CONTINUES

Pierlot Administration Is Charged With Inefficiency

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, February 6.—As the world awaits the announcement of the meeting of the Big Three, and the Germans exert their utmost strength to stave off defeat, more political trouble is brewing in newly liberated Europe, reports a Washington dispatch.

Continuing it says: "The fate of the London supported Belgian Pierlot Government hangs in balance today. Heated discussions are in progress regarding socialist and communist complaints of inefficiency in the internal administration of Belgium. The most important last minute development in the situation is the decision of the Socialist party to stand by its previous decision calling for the resignation of the five socialist members holding the balance of power in the Cabinet. It is likely, however, that the debate will continue until tomorrow.

"The announcement by General Erskine representing the supreme anti-Axis command that the anti-Axis have brought in 15,000 tons of food to Belgium oddly enough has an indirect bearing on the present political crisis. Belgian Prime Minister Hubert Pierlot is obviously not popular with many Belgian political elements, particularly with the resistance movement. But until now the other political parties in Belgium were unwilling to attempt his overthrow because they realized that if they succeeded they would have to feed the Belgian people."

ADMIT JAPANESE ARE FIT

Domei

LISBON, February 5.—Revealing the fact that the Japanese still remaining on the islands which constitute the rear guard in the Pacific area are healthy and are faring well on vegetables and other foodstuffs available on the spot, an AP correspondent at the American base on Omiyajima made the following report today:

The Japanese troops remaining on the islands in the Pacific are strong and well equipped. According to reports given by reconnaissance units, they look healthy and are self-sufficient in foodstuffs, growing vegetables and catching fish.

Two Yanks Hanged

Domei

LISBON, February 6.—Two members of the American armed forces were sentenced to death on the charge of rape and were hanged at Namur, according to a Reuter report.

CONFIDENCE IN PEOPLE URGED BY LOWER HOUSE

Kiyoshi Explains Importance of Resolution in Bringing War To Successful End

A resolution urging the Government to place its confidence in the people's sense of loyalty and to carry out administrative measures positively and forcefully thereby to overcome the difficult situation was unanimously passed by the House of Representatives in its plenary session on Wednesday afternoon.

Dr. Ichiro Kiyose explained the import of the resolution stressing the necessity of forceful execution of administrative policies designed to bring the war to a sucessful end, to ensure the people's wartime livelihood, to step up production of munitions and to safeguard the immutable polity of the Empire. Dr. Kiyose emphasized that the Administration should carry out its domestic policies with absolute confidence in the people and utilize the potentialities of the younger generation.

The House then voted for an ex-post facto approval to the disbursement of the first reserve for the 1943-44 fiscal year and passed five other bills and sent them to the House of Peers. Committee meetings for account settlement, recommendations and petitions, wartime civil suit and reserve disbursement were held earlier in the morning. With the plenary session on Wednesday afternoon, the Lower House entered a pre-adjournment recess.

The Budget Committee of the Upper House sat in a general meeting at 10 a.m. Wednesday. Following reports on the findings of respective sub-committees, the meeting approved without amendment the budget bill for the 1945-46 fiscal year and nine other budgetary bills. From 10 a.m., committee meetings were held for deliberation of the wartime reforestation bill and recommendations and petitions.

Dr. Hidetsugu Yagi, President of the Board of Technology, speaking at the first sub-committee meeting of the Budget Committee of the Upper House on Tuesday, testified that increased efforts will be made to readjust and regulate the relations of scientific researches and technological administration.

"The mission of the Board of Technology," declared Dr. Yagi, "is defined by official regulations as consisting mainly of investigations of aircraft industry. With the development in this field, however, its mission has expanded, now involving the execution of aircraft production in general. The Board has also been charged with the duty of mobilizing scientists and scientific institutions and equipment as well as conducting investigations of other matters quite remotely connected with aircraft industry such as foodstuffs and fertilizer. Matters under the charge of the Board of Technology are now so manifold that it is impossible to cover all the items under a single system. The Board is supposed to regulate the relations between the matters which are separately under the charge of different Government offices and Ministries; it is not going to undertake all of them under its sole supervision.

"I am convinced that with the present system, the Board can achieve the objectives envisaged and, therefore, it is far from my wish to have the Board's rights of supervision expanded. There still remains, however, much to be desired in the operation of the Board's functions. Efforts will be made to remedy inefficiency.

"We must admit that in our country, scientific investigations and actual production have lacked as close a contact as is to be hoped. While the Government is exerting efforts to remedy this fault, the Board of Technology has a considerable budget appropriated for the forthcoming fiscal year for specific investigations to increase production. This budget will be disbursed for researches of methods of mass production."

The account settlement committee of the Lower House on Wednesday decided to devote three days from today to the examination of the ordinary and special acount settlement for the 1933-34 fiscal year which the Government submitted to the Diet on Tuesday.

The sub-committees will commence deliberations over the account settlement from March 20 and the findings of these sub-committees will be reported to the plenary session which will take place prior to the adjournment of the present Diet session late in March.

Rites Held for Mrs. Okumura

The 39th memorial services for Mrs. Ioko Okumura, founder of the Nippon Patriotic Women's Association, were held at the Okumura Hall at Kudan-shita, Kojimachi-ku, at 10 a.m. on Wednesday. The function was attended by Seiichi Okumura, representatives of the Nippon Women's Association and others. Similar services were observed at various places throughout the country.

WARNS AGAINST MEDDLING

British Interference Unwanted by Egypt in Internal Affairs

Domei

STOCKHOLM, February 6.—Resentment over continued British interference in Egyptian affairs was unanimously expressed in the recent meeting of the Egyptian Parliament, according to a Cairo report.

In the course of the heated debates, former Prime Minister Pasha Ismail Sidky declared that Egypt was entitled to demand the complete evacuation of foreign troops from Egypt. He pointed out that an air force could defend the Suez Canal from a base outside of Egypt and also asked the Government to protect the home industry against foreign competition by means of rigid customs barriers.

Abdul Abiz es Sufani, Egyptian nationalist, declared that Britain was still interfering in the development of the Egyptian army. To Premier Pasha, Nahas' objection to such a heated debate taking place in Parliament, Bey Sufani replied that the Government should see that Egypt was given her rightful status and full independence against foreign interference.

PEACE PLAN FOR EUROPE OUTLINED BY DE GAULLE

Warns France Must Have Voice To Bind Her to Decision Made by Anti-Axis

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, February 6.—A three-point program for preserving peace in Europe was issued by President General Charles de Gaulle of the French Provisional Government in Paris last night, according to a Paris report.

The points were as follows: (1) The occupation by the United Nations' troops of the whole length of the Rhine River; (2) separation of the river's west bank and the Ruhr industrial area from the rest of Germany and (3) the assurance of independence for small nations in Europe.

However, De Gaulle warned that France would not be bound by any anti-Axis decision unless she has a part in the said decision.

Meanwhile, the broadcast made by De Gaulle last night did not favorably impress French public opinion due to the contrast between his reference to the Soviet-French Alliance and his reservation regarding his remarks on Anglo-French relations, according to a Paris dispatch from Thomas Kadette, a BBC correspondent.

De Gaulle's remarks about rivalry between France and Britain obviously refer to the question of Syria and Lebanon where he is uncompromising on the question of French predominance and orders have been given to the local French commander to take whatever actions necessary to preserve it, Kadette reports.

The Lebanese Minister in London in the meantime said last night that the French have made it clear that they wanted a predominating position in Syria and Lebanon but, he stated that Syria and Lebanon could not accept this.

Fraser in New Zealand

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, February 5.—Admiral Sir Bruce Fraser, Commander in Chief of the British Pacific Fleet, has arrived in New Zealand, according to a report received here.

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DEMANDS CLARIFICATION OF ANTI-AXIS WAR AIMS

Clear Definition Awaited by Whole World, New York Times Writes Editorially

A demand for a clarification of the war aims as well as of the post-war aims of all the anti-Axis countries, was made by the New York Times in its editorial of January 17, which stressed that not only they but the whole world was interested in these two questions. The article, in gist, follows:

"Both in the American Congress and in the British Parliament, there is going on a lively discussion on the war aims of the anti-Axis countries. There exists a sharp division of opinion, but the fact remains that the desire to have the aims of the anti-Axis countries clearly defined, in academic as well as practical terms, is universal.

"Such a desire is not limited to America and Britain. There is a general sharing of it in all countries which are associated with America and Britain in the war against the Axis nations. Because of this, the authorities in the anti-Axis countries will be courting danger if they refuse to give heed to the popular demand for a clarification of the war aims of the anti-Axis.

"The discussion of the war aims of the anti-Axis countries which is going on in America and Britain centers on the question of the wisdom of the demand for unconditional surrender which the leaders are contemplating. We have no hesitation in recording our opposition to such a peace term, which we think highly improper.

"The people of the world are anxious to know, above all, what is to take place if and when the Axis countries surrender unconditionally. In other words, the world as a whole wants to have made clear, not only the idea behind the planned peace terms of the anti-Axis countries but also the way in which the peace terms will be enforced."

LAYS BLAME ON SOVIETS

Domei

BERLIN, February 6.—The demarch of the Nuntio of Budapest who, a few days ago, addressed himself to the German command at Budapest for alleviation of the miserable conditions of the people, was pointed out by the spokesman of the Wilhelmstrasse as only a conversion to the opinion of the German military commander in Hungary. For weeks, the spokesman said, the German commander had stood ready to save the citizens of Budapest from the horrors of war. Even the International Red Cross had been notified that Germany was willing to cooperate.

The spokesman revealed that already four weeks ago the Red Cross had suggested the evacuation of civilians but that the Soviet Government had not replied to the request of the International Red Cross. Consequently the spokesman pointed out, the sole blame for the misery of the people lay with the Soviet command.

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Others: Hongkong, [illegible]
Closed: Bombay, London, New York.

DEPOPULATION SCHEME PREPARED BY SHANGHAI

Plans Made to Move One Million People, Municipal Government Official Says

SHANGHAI, February 7.—The Greater Shanghai Municipal Government has completed its plan for the depopulation of the city and at the same time applied martial law to the officials and civilians who were found guilty of infringing economic regulations for profiteering purposes, it was disclosed by Lo Chun-chiang, Secretary-General of the Shanghai Municipal Government, in a press interview here on February 2.

Referring to the announcement made in the press interview by Chou Fo-hai, Mayor of Shanghai, on February 1, regarding the organization of the Depopulation Committee, Secretary-General Lo said the committee will be formed next week with staff members of the Municipal Government, influential citizens, and members of the Shanghai Citizens' Welfare Society as members.

The committee will appropriate from a source outside the municipal revenue, an amount of 130,000,000 yuan as a subsidy for depopulation expenses, he revealed.

He said that consideration of anti-air raid measures and the situation in connection with daily necessities including foodstuff and fuel motivated the decision made by the municipal government to depopulate the city. It was estimated that the authorities intend to depopulate some 1,000,000 people from Greater Shanghai. The citizens who will come under the depopulation program will be those who have homes in various localities in the interior and who had migrated to Shanghai. A concrete plan regarding the depopulation of the city will be formed within the coming week.

In view of the recent situation, the Municipal Government will extend the application of martial law to municipal officials, policemen, and citizens in general, Mr. Lo added. Martial law will be applied in cases firstly, to municipal government officials and policemen who are found guilty of violating economic regulations for personal gains, secondly, persons who are found guilty of resorting to hoarding essential goods for the purpose of speculation or similar acts; and thirdly, persons who are found guilty of violating the wartime special criminal law covering economic, administrative, and other crimes.

Those who are found guilty will be sent up to court martial and dealt with vigorously. The application of martial law in this way will tend to simplify the current law procedure and will achieve the object of meting out severe punishments to those who commit disorderly acts against the public welfare in wartime. Subject to authorization by the National Government, regulations covering court martial will be drawn up by the police bureau of the Municipal Government.

TO MAKE NEW MEDICINE

Material Found in Hokkaido Enables Penicillin Production in Quantity

With plans for the large-scale production of penicillin from material found in Hokkaido completed, experimental production of this medicine will begin at a certain factory in Hokkaido from February 10, according to the Yomiuri-Hochi.

The production will be supervised by a committee headed by scientists of the Hokkaido Imperial University, including Yutaka Nakamura, Professor of Bacteriology; Yoshimasa Okuda, Assistant Professor of the Physico-chemical Department; Eiji Takahashi, Professor of Agricultural Chemistry of the Agricultural Department, and Tetsu Takamura, Professor of Botany of the Science Department.

Plans are being worked out by these men to utilize the material which is found in abundance in Hokkaido and which at present is being used in the manufacture of casein.

Quake Sufferers Exempted

Reduction and exemption from taxation and postponement of the collection of taxes will be considered for the suffers from the earthquake which rocked the Tokai district on January 13. The ordinance will go into effect immediately following its promulgation by the Finance Ministry on Wednesday. The contents of the ordinance are similar to those of the Imperial Ordinance proclaimed previously in connection with the earthquake which occurred in the same district on December 7 of last year.

Foreign Office Shifts

Eiji Wajima under date of February 7 was appointed chief of the Accounts Section of the Foreign Office, succeeding Shintaro Sato, who was transfered to the position of Councilor of the Japanese Embassy in China the same day, it was announced by the Foreign Office on Wednesday. Mr. Sato will be attached to the Shanghai Office of the Embassy.

Correspondent Relates His Experiences With Army Special Attack Corps Heroes

The appearance of the Special Attack Corps was a phenomenon that transcended the expectations of himself and the other members of the Military Press Corps, says an Asahi correspondent who has just returned from the Philippines. He writes:

"No thought entered our minds that there would ever be put into effect the idea of airmen hurling themselves, with their explosive-laden planes, at the vessels of their foes. This idea of airmen as human bombs was acted upon without our being in any way aware of it.

"The Fugaku and the Banda Units gave us, of the Military Press Corps attached to the Army Air Force, our first acquaintance with the Special Attack Corps.

"Both at the base and at the headquarters of the Army Air Force, strict secrecy was kept about the Special Attack Corps. We actually were in the presence of the members of the Fugaku and the Banda Units and did not suspect that they were men who had been elected to hit enemy vessels with their persons and their explosive-laden planes; there was nothing to distinguish them from the other members of the Air Force.

"We saw the members of the Fugaku and the Banda Units undergoing intensive training day after day. On close observation, we noticed that enormous bombs were in position on their beloved planes. Each bomb was so large that we concluded it would break in two the largest aircraft carrier afloat.

"The intensive training the men were going through, their planes loaded with the huge bombs in position, was devoted to diving. The planes had been stripped of anything that could not be of direct aid to the occupants in the performance of the mission before them of ramming enemy vessels. Every available space was occupied by powder. While looking at the planes, we caught ourselves wondering what use could ever be found for planes with every bit of space occupied by explosives. We confess that the thought never occurred to us that they were planes for use in the execution of ramming action.

"Each passing day saw an increase in the intensity of the energy with which the men trained themselves in descending at sharp angles toward a small object.

"On the afternoon of the day before the men set out on the ramming attack for which they had so laboriously prepared themselves, the staff officer in charge of us, the members of the Military Press Corps attached to the Air Force, shouted to us:

'The ramming planes of the Army will depart tomorrow. The object will be the enemy fleet in Leyte Bay. If any of you want information on it, you can get it at Headquarters; go there quickly.'

"Our breath was taken away.

"We could not bring ourselves to believe that the men who were departing the following day to ram enemy vessels were the same men who smiled instead of parting their lips to satisfy our curiosity with the truth that would clear up the mystery surrounding their planes with the loads of huge bombs. It is not that we could not believe in the ramming action, to carry out which the men were about to leave; but we could not believe that men, in the face of such a task as that of ramming enemy vessels, could be so calm as to show no indication of a change in their attitude toward life.

"According to schedule, the Banda Unit left for Leyte Gulf on November 12, and the Fugaku Unit for the sea area to the east of Luzon Island the following day. Neither returned.

"The departure of the units to ram enemy vessels was as featureless as the attitude adopted by the men toward the intensive training in diving to which they devoted themselves up to the day before they left never to return.

"After them, other units of the Special Attack Corps followed. They left the Japanese mainland for the Philippine Islands one after another. One unit arrived in the Philippines from Japan at a late hour, but set out the following morning in quest of enemy vessels to destroy by ramming action.

"The deeds of the Special Attack Corps impressed nobody more profoundly than the men of the Air Force based in the Philippines area. One after another, these men caught the desire to organize themselves into a Special Attack Corps for the Philippine Islands. The Army Air Force in the Philippines is thus one big Special Attack Corps, each member ready to destroy the enemy by hurling himself and his plane, loaded with explosives, at him.

"Lieutenant General Kyoji Tominaga, Commander of the Japanese Air Forces in the Philippine Area, assured me that the Special Attack Corps was no improvisation to meet a critical situation. The fighting method in the true sense of the term owes its inspiration to sources which are more than human. If a man resolves to die for the sake of his country, his resolve may even move a mountain. The formation of Special Attack Corps has awakened in us Japanese our innate sense of valor. These corps, one after another, are carrying out their self-sacrificing missions.

"What is the state of mind of the members of the Special Attack Corps? To ask such a question seemed almost sacrilegious, but I had a talk with Sublieutenant Tomoji Sasaki of the Banda Special Attack Corps immediately before the departure of his machine.

"On November 12, Sublieutenant Sasaki, then a corporal, hopped off together with four comrade planes and escorted by covering planes. This was the first mission of the Banda Special Attack Corps. Over Leyte Gulf, the Sasaki plane made a sharp descent on what appeared to be an enemy battleship, and it was thought to have made the supreme sacrifice. The action of the plane was reported to the base by the covering planes. The next day, November 13, Corporal Sasaki's "death" was announced by the Imperial Headquarters. Imagine the surprise when the Corporal suddenly returned to the base three days later.

"His plane, Corporal Sasaki related, made a sharp dive on an enemy battleship, until it was a hundred meters above the vessel, but missing the mark, it made a quick ascent. At that moment Corporal Sasaki saw a large enemy transport. Sending the transport to the bottom, he returned safely to the base. His comrades queried him in a lighter vein how a dead man could relate his experiences; he had been treated as dead for three days.

"On December 5 Corporal Sasaki rammed an enemy battleship in Leyte Gulf. "That morning I met the Corporal at the base. While smoking the cigarette I gave him, he whispered into my ear that he would never die. The next moment, the Banda Special Attack Corps departed on their mission.

"The Special Attack Corps is a phenomenon transcending our mundane experience. The members of these Special Attack Corps have shown us the highest level the Japanese spirit may attain. With the appearance of the Special Attack Corps, the Japanese have already conquered the enemy in spirit. This fact should never be forgotten by the Japanese, who have no cause to lose hope over the situation. There is certainly a limit to the enemy offensive of materials."

News and Views

What Is There To Look At?

By K. OYA

The U.S. Office of War Information announces the visit of a party of French journalists who have been invited to America for a period of six weeks from February 5. To this, a San Francisco radio report adds: "They are the first representatives of the newly-freed French press to visit the United States." This is rather surprising news, especially after U.S. Undersecretary of State Joseph Grew's lengthy exposition on the dire strait of France made three days before the announcement of the journalists' visit to America.

A feeling of cynicism on the contrast is hard to resist. After enumerating the privations of the French people, Grew cold-bloodedly said: "The French should not be too dependent on American aid. We are not ashamed to state our (America's) capability (in wartime). We both know that fighting the war comes first." This was his explanation for America's leaving the French in the lurch.

France, of course, is not the only one of the newly "liberated" countries of Europe whose lot is starvation, cold, misery and chaos. Reports from the so-called "liberated" areas contain nothing else. People in those areas are no longer interested in the war—everyday life itself is too heavy a burden for them to indulge in speculations on the war prospect. Together with France, Italy and Greece present a picture of the harrowing miseries which overtake such hapless "liberated" peoples of Europe. The masses in those countries are represented even in the Anglo-American press as "wistfully" looking back to the time of the German occupation of their land.

Over the dark scene of the sufferings of the French people reigns the notorious politician, General Charles de Gaulle, whose prime concern is how to gain a place among the five big Powers of the world, rather than to tend to the needs of his unhappy countrymen who are dying of cold and hunger. Politics is his game, and De Gaulle intends to make his game of shady schemes and negotiations pay; he is too busy on the exciting game of creating glory for himself to think of anything else.

It is from this France that what the Americans choose to call "the newly-freed French press" have gone to America on an official invitation to tour that country for six weeks. What are these men supposed to look at in America, and what to report home? The immense wealth and luxury of the Americans, in comparison with the conditions in France? The contrast is as overwhelming as that between paradise and inferno. Everybody, especially the French, know it too well, so why trouble to point it out? Is it to make a gift, over the other, from some American station, of gifts of food and fuel to their starved and freezing countrymen at home? Like showing a picture of a sumptuous dinner to one too poor to buy a loaf of bread?

The shamelessness of those who jump at the opportunity of a pleasure trip, like a hungry man trembling before a dinner-table, and the distasteful vanity of those who delight in seeing the effect of such an invitation on the hungry, are traits well matched in their utter lack of human dignity.

F.D.R. PREPARING YANKS FOR PROTRACTED WAR

Our Successes in China and Rundstedt Offensive Blast Optimism About War End

(Continued From Yesterday)

By the mobilization of enormous economic resources, war production in the United States increased rapidly after the outbreak of the war until the end of 1942, when the peak was reached. According to the figures published by the United States War Production Board, the respective amounts for January and December 1942, registered 29 and 84 against the base of 100 which was the average monthly figure for the year 1943, while the figure for November 1943 was 118, representing the peak. According to the same figures, the monthly figures for the period from January to December, 1944, were as follows: January, 114; February, 112; March, 117; April, 114; May —; June —; July —; August, 116; September, 114. The decline as indicated by these figures is not remarkable, but it is a fact that war production in the United States took a downward course or even became stationary after the end of 1943.

In September, 1944, Chairman Julius Krug of the United States War Production Board declared that the year would establish a new record in war production; the figure being expected to reach 97 or 98 per cent of the $87,300,000,000 budget available for war production. The production in 1944 may have established a new record in quantity, but as Krug himself admitted in November, actual production fell short of the estimate by 10 per cent. This is an admission worth noticing.

War Production Declines

In the production of aircraft, ships, electrical supplies, arms and ammunition for 1944, the War Production Board planned an increase of 25 per cent over that of the preceding year, but actual production fell short of the estimate as can be seen from the figures published by the American authorities themselves. The monthly figure for aircraft production, which was 1,000 in January 1941, rose to 2,000 in January 1942, to 5,000 in January 1943, and to 8,789 in January 1944. Aircraft production reached its peak in March 1944 when the figure was 9,118. The figure for December, which was 6,697, shows the extent of the decline. The following is the monthly statistics of aircraft production in the United States for the last few years:

	1944	1943	1942
January	8.789	5.000	2.000
February	9.000	5.500	2.798
March	9.118	6.200	3.000
April	8.343	6.000	3.645
May	8.902	7.200	4.000
June	8.049	7.000	4.112
July	8.000	7.373	4.819
August	7.937	7.612	4.799
September	7.598	7.598	4.000
October	7.429	8.362	4.429
November	6.747	8.789	4.892
December	6.697	8.802	5.489
Total	96.609	85.436	47.893

As revealed in the above table, aircraft production in the United States has declined. This fact is attributed by the American authorities to the change in production from small to large machines. In point of weight, the production for last year registered 1,112,000,000 pounds against 1,000,000,000 pounds for the previous year. The monthly production, which was 80,800,000 pounds in May declined to 79,700,000 pounds in August, to 78,900,000 pounds in September, and to 71,000,000 pounds in December. In the production of heavy bombing machines, however, the monthly figure which was 500 for April 1943, rose to 1,000 in April 1944 and to 1,500 in June the same year, which rate has since been maintained. The monthly production of B-29's has reached 135, a fact which should not escape the attention of the Japanese.

In shipbuilding, the peak was attained in 1943, construction for the year reaching 208 ships representing 2,044,000 tons. In 1944, the United States possessed 1,677 ships representing 16,343,000 tons against the figures of 1,856 ships and 19,238,000 tons for the previous year. These figures are significant in that they point to the decline in American shipping.

The number of American expeditionary forces reached 5,210,000 in June 1944. The supplies for forces of this size today require three times the quantities in 1943, while more than twice the mileage must be covered by the American supply service. The supplies from the United States to its expeditionary forces, it is stated, could fill not more than 60 per cent of the requirements. Now with the extension of the American operations to the Philippines, a venture requiring an enormous tonnage, the shortage of American shipping is already becoming very serious. This situation will grow more aggravated on account of the decline in shipbuilding.

Manpower Shortage Acute

In manpower, the United States is suffering from an acute shortage. As announced by the American authorities, the strength of the United States army reached 7,700,000 in April 1944, while the naval personnel rose to 3,650,000 at the end of June, with a total of 11,350,000 for the two services. In industrial mobilization, the total number of workers in April 1944 registered 50,500,000, comprising 34,000,000 men and 16,500,000 women. These figures show that manpower mobilization in the United States for the fighting and industrial services has already reached the level of 62,000,000. In the mobilization of manpower, however, 50 per cent of the total population is regarded as the maximum limit. Considering the size of the American population, the margin for further mobilization must be less than 3,000,000.

Now if the fighting forces of the United States are to be maintained at the level of 11,000,000 men, the monthly replacement alone will reach 100,000. To this must be added the heavy casualties, the extent of which Hanson Baldwin, New York Times' military commentator, put at 120,000 per month. It is clear that the American forces both in Europe and in the Pacific need reinforcing. The Chairman of the United States Select Service Board has declared that 900,000 men must be newly drafted into the fighting services in addition to 700,000 who must be put into the war industries.

The present state of manpower mobilization in the United States is as described above. From the figures quoted, it is evident that manpower mobilization in America is approaching its limit. The American casualties up to December 1944, as announced by the Washington authorities, totalled 638,139. This number is anything but reliable for in the Pacific area alone the American losses reached more than half a million. To this must be added the losses on the Western Front which cannot be much under one million. If, therefore, losses of such magnitude continue, the manpower resources of the United States will be depleted, a consequence which will not only have its effect on war production but which may prove a fatal blow to the United States.

The European War did not terminate in 1944 in spite of Roosevelt's assurances. Also the promise of reconversion of war industries into peace industries has proved illusory. The rosy picture put before the American public has now been replaced by a grim prospect of prolonged warfare involving enormous losses in men and materials. The American home front has become more uncomfortable as the things the Americans must go without have grown in extent. The supplies of woolen goods up to May have been bought up for military use, further aggravating the shortage of cloth for civilian use, causing a 40 per cent increase in the price.

The day after a somber Christmas, rationing was enforced on 80 per cent of the meat with existing rations on food reduced and many new items put on the list. A stringent control of gasoline has for the greater part deprived the Americans of the use of motor cars, while the reduction in domestic coal has given rise to a serious heating problem. In the midst of stringent rationing, the only thing thriving is the black market.

The annual war expenditure of the United States will continue to range from $60,000,000,000 to $80,000,000,000 as disclosed in Roosevelt's message on the national budget. Henry Morgenthau, United States Secretary of the Treasury, is demanding increased taxation as a measure against inflation. As stated by the London Daily Sketch, the States was 41 pounds sterling for 1944, which amount will rise to 140 or 150 pounds in 1945. Roosevelt promised the Americans an early end of the war, but what they actually obtained has been utterly different in character.

Press Comments

Wednesday, February 7

ENEMY INVADES MANILA

YOMIURI-HOCHI—The enemy has entered one corner of the city of Manila. Our Units on the spot are combatting this enemy and fierce fighting is in progress. To retake the Philippines has been the ardent desire of the enemy commander, General Douglas MacArthur, for the past two years. Now he will probably engage in large-scale propaganda to the effect that with the penetration into this one corner of Manila, the ignominy of his previous defeat can be written off.

Manila being the capital of the Philippines, the political effect of a return to that city must by no means be ignored, but militarily, it has no significance beyond being a city situated in one corner of Manila Bay. The fate of Luzon Island rests not on Manila itself, but on the plains in its background and the remaining wide territory. At present, our Imperial Forces have spread their positions, like a wall, in the Clark area which is an important point in the Manila Plain. In the mountain areas to the east, our crack Japanese Forces in solid positions are awaiting their chance to annihilate the enemy when he swarms into this area.

There are two objectives to the enemy's Philippine operations. One of them, of course is the recapture of lost territory. The other is to gain control of Manila and the plain beyond it and to make of them one big base for the deployment of mass aerial forces in preparation for the next operation.

If the strategy hitherto employed by the enemy in the Pacific is considered from this viewpoint, then the occupation of pivotal localities would seem to be his foremost objective. His intention to establish air bases in those localities and thus attain hegemony of the air does not mean, perforce, a desire to widen the area under his occupation. For instance, having acquired an air base on Peliliu Island, the enemy did not rush to occupy Palau Island. On Morotai Island, too, after securing the Southern Airfield, he disregarded the existence of our garrison troops in the hilly areas there. The same would apply to Leyte Island, and probably the enemy will also employ the same tactics on Luzon Island.

His aim, in the first place, is political effect which propagation of their success in the Philippine operations by reducing Manila will have on the world. In the second place, he hopes to establish an air base in the plain for bombing Taiwan, the southwestern islands, and Japan Proper. In the third place, he hopes to acquire hegemony of the air and thereby to secure control of the seas around Manila Bay. By establishing a shipping lane through the Bay, he hopes to bring in his Pacific Fleet, and from that advance base, move freely to the South China Sea and other waters. In concert with the operations of his land-based air force, this is intended to cut off Japan Proper from the resources of the Southern Regions. Moreover, utilizing this combined strength both on the seas and in the air, the enemy plans to try to reach the coast, at one stroke, at one point or another.

As a countermeasure we must blast the enemy's concentrations in the Manila Plain and positively prevent him from establishing an air base. This would prevent the enemy from utilizing Manila Bay and at the same time it would tie down the ten-odd divisions landed on Luzon and prevent them from being shifted for action elsewhere.

It may be that the enemy forces which have invaded Luzon constitute the entire strength available for use in the Pacific operations. If this force is drawn to the Manila area, and heavy losses are inflicted on it, then no matter how much the enemy may desire it, his operations to reach the coast will become impossible of execution. This in other words, is our objective in keeping our Forces intact, our endurance strategies and our bleeding operations. Under the skilled leadership of the supreme commander, General Tomoyuki Yamashita, our Forces on the spot are developing extremely multifarious bleeding operations at various spots. We have not the slightest doubt that through these strategies together with the valiant fighting of our Shock and other Units, the expected objective will be reached, and we fervently pray for the successful fighting of our men on the front lines.

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TOKYO, THURS., FEBRUARY 8, 1945

The World Economic Conferences

The British journal Financial News reports that preparations are now being made in Britain and the United States to hold a world economic conference which may take place in London to discuss the problem of the disposal of surplus goods after the war, the elimination of trade quotas, and cartels. Moreover not long ago, foreign dispatches carried suggestions from British quarters that a separate world conference be called specifically to discuss the copper question.

These reports go to show very graphically the multifarious problems which have given rise to intense Anglo-American economic friction during the present war. The purpose of the British and Americans in calling such conferences is avowedly to seek a satisfactory solution of the various world economic questions, but it is significant that the five major conferences which have been called since the war to take up various economic problems were nothing else than a scheme on the part of each of the Anglo-American countries to jockey for a favorable position in international economy at the expense of the other.

One of the first of such conferences was the International Food Conference which was held at Hot Springs, Virginia, in the summer of 1943. The meeting was ostensibly called for the purpose of setting up countermeasures to meet the possible shortage of foodstuffs after the war and to make a scientific investigation into all aspects of the international food question. Actually, however, it was a glaring scheme on the part of the United States to collect information on the production and consumption of foodstuffs in the various nations participating in the conference with the object of preparing plans for the expansion of American farm exports in the postwar period.

The second of such conferences was the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Conference which opened at Atlantic City, New Jersey, in November of the same year. According to the United States, the sponsor of this meeting, the mission of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration is to supply food, clothing, medicine, and housing facilities to the peoples of the war-stricken areas of Europe and Asia. But, as subsequent events have proved, the United States is actually using this mechanism for the express purpose of expanding her export trade under the cloak of humanitarianism. That such is the clear object of the United States was even intimated by the New York Times when it defined this organization as "a combination of crusaders and businessmen."

The third of such meetings was the International Monetary Conference which convened at Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, in July of last year. In the name of free and greater international trade, the United States advocated the "removal" of trade barriers and foreign exchange restrictions by the countries taking part in the parley. No promise was, however, made by the United States that she would remove her own high tariff walls. Moreover, the International Monetary Fund which was established under the draft adopted by this conference was so devised as to concentrate enormous economic and financial power in the hands of the United States which has a monopoly of the world's gold supply. It was obvious, therefore, that this parley was but another plan on the part of the American Colossus to foist its economic domination on the other nations of the globe.

The Anglo-American Oil Conference which was held first at London and later at Washington last year was another of the series of meetings called to discuss economic questions. This conference which followed in the wake of the American plan to seek petroleum concessions in Saudi Arabia provides a typical instance of the character of the Anglo-American economic ambition. Instead of opening up the petroleum resources of the world to all, the United States and Britain sought at this meeting to monopolize the world's oil supply. But even over their common aspiration, the British and the Americans failed to reach a fundamental solution. As Senator Ralph Brewster recently disclosed, the agreement which was signed at this parley carried a clever scheme on the part of Britain to shut out American oil from the sterling areas. Such being the nature of the pact, it was thrown out of the United States Senate by the indignant legislators when it came up for ratification.

The most recent conference called to take up economic issues was the International Aviation Conference. Here again the American proposal sought to gain a monopoly over the airlanes of the world. The United States ingenuously advocated the principle of the freedom of the air, not from their sincere desire to open up the skyways of the world to all air-minded nations but from their ambition to acquire landing rights all over the world. The conference, of course, adopted an international aviation convention, but the nature of this agreement left no doubt that because of the intense Anglo-American jealousy and suspicion, the parley failed to reach its main objective for the sound development of international commercial aviation.

In all these conferences, the theme is thus invariable. They reveal a consistent attempt on the part of the United States to obtain undisputed control over international economy and to play the role which Britain formerly occupied in international banking and trade. The projected world economic conference and the copper conference can be no different in this respect. It is evident that as long as the Anglo-American countries seek only the betterment of their own economic position at the expense of the other peoples of the globe there can never be real economic peace and stability.

Why Not?

He had started on a new job. When the middle of the week came he found himself a little short of money so he called on the cashier.

"Can I have my week's wages now?," he asked.

"But you've only been here three days," said the cashier.

"I know," replied the newcomer, "but if I can trust you for the first half of the week, surely you can trust me for the second half."

A Year Ago Today
February 8, 1944

A formation of American heavy bombers, protected by Thunderbolt fighter planes, bombed Frankfort according to London dispatches.

• • •

The Finnish Air Defense Headquarters ordered the withdrawal of the citizens of Helsinki, it is reported from the Finnish capital.

• • •

President Franklin Roosevelt ordered the United States army to take over seven fiber industry plants at Fall River, Massachusetts, where workers affiliated with the Congress of Industrial Organizations have been striking over the controversy concerning revision of contracts with their employers, according to Washington reports. Upon issuance of the Presidential order, the army immediately took over those plants, and also commenced negotiations with the striking workers for their resuming work.

• • •

Concerning the announcement made by the United States Secretary of State in regard to the demand made to Finland to quit the war front, the authorities of the Finnish Legation at Washington announced that Finland has no such intentions. "The position of Finland will never change. However fiercely Helsinki might be bombed and the whole city may turn to ashes and ruins, Finland will never surrender," the Finnish Legation authorities said.

• • •

The province of Transvaal in the Union of South Africa, was flooded when the Vaal River overflowed its banks, it is reported from Johannesburg. In Standerton, situated 160 kilometers southeast of Johannesburg, over 500 persons have been made homeless.

WARTIME AFRICA

Reich Natural Resources of Dark Continent Attract U.S.

Editor's Note: The following article appeared recently in the Keizai Mainichi.

II

As a result of the fall of the mother country into Germany's hand, Belgian Congo also was placed under a difficult position due to the suspension of the reports of all its agricultural products and other raw materials such as copper, tin, coconuts, and cotton. In January, 1941, an Anglo-Belgian agreement was concluded at London, by virtue of which the British Government held itself responsible for the purchase of all these raw materials from Belgian Congo. This step which resulted in the incorporation of Belgium into the sterling bloc gave new impetus to the development of tin mining and rubber cultivation in the Congo area. The rubber cultivation in Belgian Congo was started during the first Great War, but was later abandoned. The new rubber project initiated in this area, therefore, is the second attempt. The rubber production in 1942 was 7,000 tons.

The United States is also paying attention to the natural resources of Belgian Congo. In August, 1941, Cordell Hull, former Secretary of State urged the necessity of improving commerce between Belgian Congo and the Western Hemisphere, while Paul Henry Spaak, Minister of Foreign Affairs at that time, visited Roosevelt at Washington in regard to this matter.

In keeping with the growth of her military interest in Africa, the United States increased and strengthened her sea and air routes to the Dark Continent, exercising great efforts at the same time for the construction of motor roads, military bases, warehouses, and repair stations. Many parties of inspectors, economic committees, technicians and engineers, land surveyors, and mechanists were sent to Africa from different quarters of the United States, with adequately large armies of laborers. This increased the economic and financial influence of the United States in different parts of Africa. The tie between the United States and Liberia, for instance, was considerably strengthened by the activities of these parties of American visitors to Africa. Liberia has rich deposits of copper, lead, iron, tin and gold. Liberia, among others, is an important source of rubber supply to the United States. In 1925, the American Firestone Company leased 1,000,000 acres of land in Liberia, and started the cultivation of rubber in an area of 50,000 acres. Liberia is now producing about 10,000 tons of rubber a year, and 90 per cent of all its exports (of which 80 per cent is covered by rubber) is shipped to the United States, while 60 per cent of all its imports comes from the same country.

The United States is paying keen attention to the British colony on the Ivory Coast which is a well-known producing center of manganese. The position of the United States is fast becoming larger in the foreign trade of the Union of South Africa. Recently, Washington and Pretoria have exchanged naval and military attaches. The United States has established facilities in the Union of South Africa as well as in the ex-German colony in South Africa for the transhipment of all cargoes for Suez, Basra and Bombay.

The economic condition of North Africa, especially of Algeria, has been greatly affected by the suspension of its foreign trade with the Mediterranean countries. The export of wine, one of the most important agricultural products of North Africa, has been suspended. The Economic Conference held in Algiers in 1941 decided on the expansion of farms growing greens, barley and oats and the reduction of the vineyards. Following the landing of the Anglo-American forces in North Africa, this Economic Conference directed the attention of the British and the American Governments to the economic difficulty confronting Algeria. The Washington and the London authorities, thereupon, respectively dispatched parties of economic inspectors to Algiers. These inspectors in the first place took up for consideration and study the question concerning the division of the raw materials produced in the country, with the United States demanding the supply of manganese, with Britain requesting iron ore, pyrites, phosphate, zinc, and lead ores. The investment of American capital in French North Africa, in the meantime, is rapidly increasing in amount, and the Morgan interests are showing a profound interest in the railways connecting Algiers with Morocco as observable from the fact that their representatives had already started their behind-the-scene activities in Casa Blanca even before the landing of the Anglo-American forces in North Africa.

(End)

KEY TO CURRENCY PROBLEMS OF CHINA

Sound Theoretical Foundation Needed for any Money Policy—Orthodox Theories Inapplicable

Editor's Note: The following article by Masaji Yoshida which appeared in the Keizai Shinshi takes up comprehensively the general question of currency policy in China. It is an important contribution to the study of the currency problems on the continent.

I

In studying the economic condition on the continent of China, it is first of all necessary to have a clear grasp of the position of currency in China. To investigate all aspects of this problem would require much space. For the sake of brevity, therefore, this problem may be condensed into the form of a syllabus, as follows:

1. Currency needs in the prosecution of the Greater East Asia War:
   - a. For obtaining the supply of labor in China as well as commodities for military requirements on the spot;
   - b. For supply of commodities to Japan.
2. For the people's well-being on the continent;
   - a. Maintenance of order;
   - b. Assuring the people of their livelihood.
3. In financial relations with Japan;
   - a. For defraying the expenses of the Japanese expeditionary forces in China.
   - b. For facilitating the economic construction on the continent;
   - c. For use in Japan's credit extensions to China.
4. In connection with the currency manipulations of America and Britain;
   - a. Their postwar currency schemes;
   - b. Their assistance to Chungking.

Authorities Admired

Recollecting the Japanese policy pursued on the Chinese continent in regard to the currency problems during the last seven years since the outbreak of the China Affair, we find many an incident in which both the Japanese and Chinese authorities concerned are entitled to our appreciation and admiration for their unusual efforts exerted and achievements attained. At the same time, however, certain incidents in which it might have been better if they had acted differently, are not lacking.

In working out a sound measure in currency policy, the following two conditions are of the highest importance: (1) Possession of guiding principles as a result of a thorough theoretical inquiry into the problems of currency and commodity prices; and (2) Taking full account of the history of the areas to be affected by the currency policy and making certain about the people's living conditions there as well as the enemy intrigues in such areas.

Investigation Needed

An argument might be raised that during the course of a war there is no time for a leisurely academic study of such subjects as the currency problem. But, such problems as currency and commodity prices are, unlike physical or chemical questions, of such a nature that they cannot be tested in advance. Consequently, before their actual introduction, they have to be studied from all angles, using, fully-mobilized expert knowledge as well as the results of as much theoretical study as can possibly be gained.

Although there is, of course, no need to act in conformity with the established orthodox theoretical criterion, yet the settlement of the currency problems must not be restricted more than a justified extent by the needs felt for the present or envisaged for the immediate future. Nor should any pet conclusions of government officials or others that have no expert knowledge be allowed to the guiding principles.

Before deciding the steps to be taken, full account has to be taken of the historical characteristics of the areas involved as well as the present conditions of the daily lives of the people, together with the actual position of enemy designs that are at work there. Unfortunately, however, the actual practice in adopting a currency policy in China has almost always been carried out in such a way that it makes little or no use of the experience and knowledge of those who enjoy prestige in China.

Expert Advice Essential

This practice is lamentable, though it may presumably have been prompted by a desire to start with a new leaf or to guard jealously against the leakage of secrets in the introduction of fresh measures.

Measures dealing with such matters a currency, monetary circulation, and commodity prices need not always be of a novel nature. They should not be introduced rashly, either. People with expert knowledge and experience should be consulted well and their advice made most of.

Based upon a solid theoretical foundation and with careful prevision and in accordance with the existing realities, the economic measures must be introduced in such a way that they need not be revised in the future. Yet, if a wrong measure should be allowed to continue without due revision or modification, an added difficulty in effecting the necessary change is sure to come about. A revision made in a rash manner would be accompanied by bigger evils than the lack of revision, resulting in the most irretrievable loss of the people's confidence.

Currency Theory Problems

Reviewing the missions of the currencies in relation to the existing situation of the war and the international situation, we find that in no few respects the orthodox currency theory, which has been so far accepted, should undergo alteration.

Three functions are generally considered to belong to the currency: the medium of exchange, the measure of value, and the preservation of wealth. At the present time, however, only the first of the above functions, namely, the medium of exchange, is at work in practice, while the other two functions are rendered almost nominal.

The function of the currency as the medium of exchange is by no means freely in operation at present, being under various controls and restrictions. These restrictions, are largely ascribable to the unusual international relations, and more especially to the circumstances in direct or indirect relations with the war. Apart, however, from these rather external causes affecting the function of the currency, there is a more intrinsic cause that is exerting its consequences upon the currency. The function as the medium of exchange, representing purchasing power, is authorized by the State and supported so long as it enjoys the confidence of the people. So, in accordance with the State's necessity or in proportion to the loss of the people's confidence, the function of the currency is inevitably diminished and its purchasing power reduced. A new currency created by a new regime will, without sufficient political support, will fail to gain great confidence, particularly if an older currency is in circulation already in the same area.

High Commodity Prices

We must then carefully consider what have been the true causes of the change in the value of the currencies in the Chinese continent. The change is generally considered to be caused by factors that make their appearance in two phases—in the changes in the commodity prices and in the currencies themselves. Greater importance is often attached to the momentary war situation as one of the most powerful factors influencing the value of currencies.

The above statement applies to all situations. If the so-called principle of King's should be held tenable, i.e. that the rate of advance in commodity prices is theoretically three times the rate of reduction in the volume of commodities supplied, the reduction in the available volume of commodities in Central China has not been such as to justifiy the present level of commodity prices there. Goods can be had comparatively easily there, only if the prices demanded are paid: the well-to-do are even now continuing a very extravagant life. The agricultural crops have been bumper ones for the past several years. The issue of paper notes has increased, of course, but by no means in a proportion that justifies the present high prices of commodities.

The recent unfavorable war situation of the Axis Powers is stated by many as the biggest factor for the soaring of the commodity prices in Central China. They say that only if the war should take a turn favorable to the Axis, a considerable decline in the local commodity prices in Central China is more than probable. This idea, however, cannot be admitted. Look at the high price level in the areas under the Chungking regime.

Currency and Confidence

In short, a change in the value of currencies and in commodity prices is caused not only by the three factors already given, but also by the people's confidence in the government and in the currencies. This confidence is greatly influenced by the strength or weakness of that regime's political power and by the adequateness or inadequateness of the governmental meaures.

In the maintenance of the value of currencies, backing them up with commodities is indeed as important a matter as linking them with foreign currencies. But, it appears that here also, lies a general misconception to no small extent. The idea that a wide and undisturbed circulation and good stabilization of a currency require a large quantity of commodities supporting the currency value, reveals an ignorance in the theory of managed currency. As stated already, the circulation and the value of currency are sustained by confidence in the government by the people. If the currency value can be supported by nothing more than a large quantity of commodities available in exchange for it, then would not a warehouse warrant be sufficient? Is the loss of appetite of one who is suffering from dyspepsia to be overcome by prescribing a dose of medicine in equal quantity to the food he takes? A true cure of dyspepsia lies in seeing to it that the patient cures his stomach. Likewise, in assuring a currency with a sound basis, efforts should be exerted to bring it under a sound and powerful political support and adequate economic policies.

Linking Currencies

As for the problem of linking the currency to that of a foreign currency, it has to be pointed out that this job is essentially of a difficult nature, because every currency has its own natural value that fluctuates in accordance with economic realities and political factors within its own area of circulation. Pegging permanently the relative value of two different currencies, must, therefore, be very hard.

If the pegged link value is to be maintained forcibly, restrictions or controls that would be highly unusual in normal transactions would have to be introduced into the exchange of commodities or the circulation of money. If, therefore, the linking of the values of two given currencies should really be found necessary, their relative value should be determined at a most reasonable point worked out after careful study and consideration, with provisions, in addition, authorizing revision in the relative value whenever necessity appears in later days.

Deciding on a pegged value of the currencies without full consideration and study beforehand, and abruptly revising the rate as soon as it is found unfit, would fail to serve the purpose and would be accompanied by evil consequences. Such a revision would be particularly objectionable if the authorities concerned have already declared their determination to keep that relative value intact and if their determination so expressed has been borne out by fact for some measurably long period. We should not fail to pay our attention to the fact that the linking of a currency to another will never be an active stabilizer of the value of the former currency unless there is a complete freedom of exchange transactions between the two.

Commodity Price Difficulties

Let me then describe briefly my idea about the low commodity-price policy. The maintenance of as low a price level as possible not only in the Chinese continent but also all over the Greater East Asia areas, must be highly desirable in meeting the requirements of the war, particularly as prices are too liable to soar higher and higher in almost any war. In following the low commodity-price policy, however, it is essential to prevent supplies of goods from diminishing and to maintain the people's confidence in the government or in the currency. If, without taking effective means in these respects, official prices are fixed at a low level out of all proportion with the actual commercial transaction, or if compulsory sale or purchase of goods is made at prices lower than those justified, or if strict control or supervision only is depended on, it will be found difficult to maintain the low price level.

For instance, if a compulsory purchase of rice, wheat or cotton is made by the authorities in China at an official price set lower than its actual market price, the people who are affected by the compulsory purchase will try to seek compensation for their losses between the compulsory and market prices by offering on the black market their remaining goods. The compulsory purchase at a low official price by the authorities, with a view to lowering the market price works contrary to its purpose and results in high market prices in the end.

Sales Prices Contrary

How, then, will it be with sales, instead of purchases? The compulsory supply of such a merchandise as cotton yarn or gold bullion, for instance, at a considerably lower price than its market value might at first sight appear to be able to lower the price of this particular merchandise, and gradually spread its lowering influence upon other merchandise in general. If the quantity involved in the lower priced sales in the above way be positively abundant, the market price of that particular merchandise only, independent from the prices of other merchandise, will decline, at least for some length of time. But, if the quantity involved in the compulsory sale is not so abundant, the psychology of the people in the market will lead to a queer result the sale at lower prices will serve to raise the level of the market price. If a specific quantity of gold which used to be sold previously for e.g. 100,000 yuan, should now be sold because of the official dictation of its price at a lower figure, e.g. for only 40,000 yuan, the buyer, who has saved 60,000 yuan in the purchase of the above quantity of gold, would without suffering loss, be enabled to bid for a further equal quantity of gold at as high a price as 160,000 yuan. It means that the lower price sale at 40,000 yuan, has, contrary to the purpose at which it originally aimed, sent the market price up to 160,000 yuan. If the market price is 300,000 yuan and the compulsory sale made at as low as 40,000 yuan, the market price will then be found raised to 560,000 yuan.

(To Be Concluded)

THE STRATOSPHERE

Trend of Military Flying Is Toward Higher Ceiling

Air warfare has been a race skyward between aircraft and artillery. It is doubtful whether any plane in action in World War I was capable of climbing much beyond 16,000 feet, and most flying took place at very low altitudes. Since then the range and accuracy of anti-aircraft fire have vastly increased. In this war most bombing and fighting have been done by planes flying up to 30,000 feet. But recent reports indicate that the air over Germany is no longer safe for planes that formerly were beyond anti-aircraft range. The new German batteries are effective at an estimated 35,000 feet, and it is believed they are continuously and automatically aimed by short-wave radio plane locaters.

RAF squadrons flying at levels that used to be safe have suffered heavy losses. The whole trend of military flying still is toward higher and higher ceilings.

The planes can do it. Long-range heavy bombers can soar serenely above the topmost limit of accurate anti-aircraft fire and well above the service ceilings of most interceptor planes. In theory cities can be bombarded without the loss of a plane. But practically, it can't be done. The reason is man's dependence on good, rich air for life. Planes long ago achieved a ceiling far above those that man can safely tolerate. The bottleneck in air superiority is likely to develop in getting men who can fly high.

Obstacles to High Flight

The obstacles to high flight are cold, aeroembolism which is a mild form of the bends, and altitude sickness. By far the greatest of these is altitude sickness—oxygen starvation. Above 15,000 feet, men without artificial oxygen equipment begin to lose their efficiency; at 18,000 feet they are in danger; somewhere between 18,000 and 26,000 feet they lose consciousness. At 25,000 feet death results in 20 to 30 minutes. Oxygen masks are effective up to 35,000 feet—which guns already are reaching. Even the best pilot, with the best apparatus, breathing 100 per cent oxygen, reaches the ceiling of safe human flight around 37,000 feet.

Strangest symptom of altitude sickness is the victim's unawareness of peril. In fact, with some persons the more severe the attack, the better they feel. No other known condition can produce such great bodily harm and at the same time cause less distress.

The classic account of the results of exposure to high altitude was written nearly 70 years ago by the French meteorologist Tissandier. With two companions he made a balloon ascension. They had oxygen, but, feeling fine, failed to use it in time. Tissandier's companions died. He wrote his experiences:

"I now come to the fateful moments when we were overcome by the terrible action of reduced pressure. At 22,900 feet, torpor had seized me. I wrote, nevertheless, though I have no clear recollection of writing. At 24,600 feet, the torpor that overcomes one is extraordinary. But there is no suffering or thought of danger. On the contrary one feels inward joy; one rises and is glad to be rising. At 26,000 feet I felt so weak I could not even turn my head to look at my companions. I wished to call out but my tongue was paralyzed. All at once I fell down powerless and lost all further memory."

Similar to Intoxication

The symptoms of altitude sickness are strikingly similar to those of intoxication. There is marked impairment of vision and hearing, a general numbing of the senses and loss of muscle control. There are also psychic changes characteristic of drunkenness. The flier either sinks into a blurred torpor or, more commonly, becomes elated, vivacious and filled with a sense of happiness and well-being. In both states he is unaware of his condition and suffers a progressive deterioration of judgment. In the stupor preceding unconsciousness and death he may have spells of hysterical laughter or be swept by sudden rages.

The inexorable limit of man's endurance can best be understood by considering the cocoon of atmosphere that surrounds the globe to a depth of at least 100 miles. This atmosphere consists of a mixture of oxygen, nitrogen and rarer gases in proportions which are constant at all altitudes so far reached. Pressure, however, which at sea level is 14.1 pounds per square inch, is less than one third as great at 30,000 feet. At sea level, oxygen is in effect driven by pressure through the walls of the lungs and into the blood stream for distribution throughout the body. But as the altitude increases, the pressure drops, and sufficient oxygen no longer is forced into blood so at great heights not even breathing 100 per cent oxygen will save the flier.

Lack of pressure has other effects. Formation of bubbles of nitrogen and other gases begins in the spinal fluid at 18,000 feet and in the blood at 30,000 feet. This is aeroembolism, resembling the bends which afflict tunnel workers and divers from the opposite cause—too great a pressure. If the flier fails to descend to lower altitudes when first attacked, aeroembolism may cause paralysis and even death.

Another effect of low pressure is that the gases in the flier's stomach and intestines expand and may cause severe cramps; for this reason military fliers avoid gas-forming foods. There is also the risk that bloating will force the diaphragm upward against the heart and lungs and cause fainting.

If the flier's Eustachian tubes become clogged his eardrums may rupture; similiarly he may suffer excruciating sinus headache if one of the sinus cavities becomes blocked so that air is trapped inside at one pressure while the surrounding atmosphere is at another. He is also subject to paroxysms of coughing because high altitude air is not dense enough to clear mucus or irritating substances from the respiratory tract.

Since low atmospheric pressure is responsible for all these hazards, the ideal solution is to find a way to send pilots aloft in an atmospheric pressure kept artificially high. This has been attempted in two ways. One is the pressure suit, developed in 1933. It was in such a suit that an Italian set the world's record of 56,046 feet in 1938. But it is a bulky garment surmounted by a helmet with a large window. It greatly hampers movement and restricts vision, and no army uses it. The alternative is a plane with a tightly sealed cabin or cockpit equipped with blowers to keep up the internal pressure mechanically.

Pressure cabin construction increases weight, and operation of the blowers is a heavy drain of power. There also is difficulty in sealing a plane so that the joints around gun turrets and bomb bays are airtight.

Have to Fight Cold

Until every fighting plane of the future carries its own built-in atmosphere pilots will also have to fight cold—one of the most stubborn of high flight problems. At 20,000 feet, it is 12.3 degrees below zero; at 30,000 feet, 48 below. Around freezing, when winter suits and heavy gloves must be worn, a pilot's efficiency drops 20 per cent, while at 40 below zero it may go down to 18 per cent of normal. At this painfully low temperature the pilot is subject to deep mental depression and shows indifference to his mission and even to life itself.

So far no system of heating military planes has been effective. Windows on a heated plane tend to frost thickly, leaving the pilot blind. Yet the maximum of clothing that a flier can wear will keep him comfortable only down to zero. An electrically heated suit is satisfactory at all altitudes but it consumes power. Heated suits have been used to a limited extent in Europe.

For the present, probably the best way to increase the altitude of military flying is by pilot selection. Individual tolerances vary greatly, and by proper culling of personnel it would be possible to build up a corps of natural-born high fliers. The Germans have already done this, before the war began German medical researches established some two dozen high altitude laboratories and put great numbers of fliers into controlled-atmosphere tanks to give them a foretaste of what they would find aloft.

Today altitude is limited not by the skill of the plane designer but by the ceiling of the human body—seven miles.

READERS IN COUNCIL

Greece, Italy and the Argentine

Sir:

What a curious commentary on Mr. Stettinius' pontifical pronouncement to the effect, that the mode of government of Greece and Italy is entirely a matter for the choice of the populations of those countries, is afforded by the announcement that in Mr. Stettinius' view "it is absolutely impossible for the United States Government to resume ordinary diplomatic relations" with the government which is peacefully accepted by the people of Argentina.

Yes; it is the same gentleman.

Truly yours,
TH. BATY

She Said No!

"Well, and how are you getting on with your courtship with the banker's daughter?"

The young suitor beamed happily. "Not so bad," he replied. "I'm getting some encouragement now."

"Really," put in his friend. "Is she beginning to smile sweetly on you, or something?"

"Not exactly," replied the young man, "but last night she told me she had said 'No!' for the last time."

Beware, Girls!

A famous man once arrived in a big city and it is said that he was kissed by 2,000 girls in two hours. When queried upon the matter, he commented: "I'd much rather have had my pick of the 2,000 girls and kissed her alone for two hours."